

# **Governor's Council on Innovation and Technology**

## **Telecommunication Infrastructure Subcommittee**

**Minutes - OCTOBER 7, 2004 (1:30 P.M. – 3:00PM)**

### **Meeting Objectives:**

- To establish a baseline understanding of the group's purpose.
- To provide members an overview of the state of telecom in Arizona.
- To agree on next steps for organizing the group's work.

#### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

**Attending in Person:** Chris Cumiskey, Art Ashton, Richard King, Bill Stuart, Ben Standifer, Andrea Schlanger, Mark Goldstein, Sally Bender, Matt McClymonds, Cory Miller, Bradley Ryan.

**Also attending as guests:** Terry Cooper of Graham County, Alex Vauagas of Tohono O'odham Nation, Sandra Watson of Commerce Dept. and GCIT

**Attending via Telephone:** Marcus Needham, Mike Keeling, Richard McNeely, Vaughn L. Wilhelm, Wayne Boline

**Not Attending:** Denny Brown, Gil Jimenez, Victor Mendez, Catherine Connolly, Michael C. Sherman

#### **II. Subcommittee Mission and Objectives :**

Chris Cumiskey provided a brief history of the events leading to the creation of this subcommittee. Adding to this discussion was Mark Goldstein of ATIC and of ATC

#### **III. State of the state's Telecommunication infrastructure**

##### **a. Connecting Arizona (ATIC document)**

A brief explanation of this document was provided. It was noted that the document was 2 years old and some improvement in the State's infrastructure had been made

##### **b. Other studies**

Galen Updike presented a web based PowerPoint presentation entitled "Connecting Arizona to the Future" (those calling into the meeting were able to view the presentation via the Teleconference Website). The ensuing discussion centered on comparisons of the fiber maps of Colorado and Georgia and the fiber map of Arizona. The importance of the "middle mile" was noted as the necessary backbone to enable development of the last-mile connections to homes and businesses. Members of the committee, especially those from rural Arizona began a discussion of the comparative value of Wireless vs. Fiber backbone.

#### **IV. Best Practices – Other State models**

Members were asked to read a document in the provided materials which identified the most important issues to be solved in 10 other states' strategic plans. It was noted by the chair that the most often cited remedial action to taken by those states concerned right-of-way issues. Mark Goldstein provided a concise overview of the complexity of those issues in Arizona. It was noted that this subcommittee's efforts represented Arizona's first attempt to discuss Telecommunications as a critical infrastructure. This subcommittee's impact would be far reaching.

##### **Discussion – Next Steps:**

Members of the committee suggested a number of important topics for future consideration. A consensus was reached that a discussion of Wireless broadband would be immediately valuable as a starting place. Some names of possible presenters on the topic were suggested.

#### **V. Set next meeting date**

A number of dates were discussed, with the members identifying the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of November as the best time. Chris indicated either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday (16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> respectively) were the likely dates. He would be in contact regarding the Date and Time.

#### **VI. Adjourned – 3:05 PM**